PEACE AND GOODWILL

The Force Commander visited every Contingent immediately before Christmas to wish everyone a Happy Christmas. He was pictured above with the Australians in Famagusta.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGES

Peace and Goodwill for all.

Once a year we are reminded, a little more personally and directly, of one of the noblest of aspirations of mankind. It

In Cyprus, where all of us serving with UNFICYP, civilian and military have been entrusted with a unique task of making a personal contribution towards the vital interests of international peace and security, this message is more significant.

In looking back over the year we have spent together, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking each and every one of you for the splendid and devoted manner in which you have carried out the tasks allotted you. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to have been in command of such dedicated people, and I thank you. I wish you all, and your families at home, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I send to you all the Military and Civilian personnel of UNFICYP my Christmas greetings and best wishes for a Happy New Year. I take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation for the devotion, efficiency and resourcefulness shown by your Headquarters and the Contingents of the Force in performing your tasks. The excellence of the work done by UNFICYP in often difficult and delicate circumstances is particularly appreciated here at Headquarters. It is my earnest hope that the forthcoming year may bring more peaceful and stable conditions in the Island.

Kurt Waldheim
Secretary General
DANCON NEWS

TRAINING IN B COY

On April 30th, the soldiers from OP 8 KAMP were put through a rigorous training session. The day began with a warm-up, followed by various physical fitness exercises such as lat pull-downs, squats, and push-ups. The training continued with obstacle courses and running exercises, testing their endurance and physical strength.

"Warm up"

300 in the cold and dark morning of Dec. 12th. All soldiers were on duty, with no sleep in their beds. The men in the Swedish battalion were all up, alert, and present, waiting to celebrate Lucia — a 200-year-old Swedish tradition. Lucia, a young Italian girl, arrived in Sweden in 1583, and her story inspired the Swedish tradition. The men sang hymns and folk songs, dressed in white dresses, and celebrated the memory of Lucia, who suffered the death of a martyr.

SWEDEN WIN MILITARY PATROL

The Swedes won the UNFICYP Patrol Competition for the second time in the area around the Salt Lake in Larnaca. The competition was a test of skill and endurance for the soldiers. It included tasks such as reading maps, observing targets, climbing obstacles, and throwing hand grenades. The participants were evaluated on their ability to work as a team and their overall performance.

Private J. Andersen being supervised by Lt. A.M. Kristensen, who is a first class Markman.

RESULTS:

1. Sweden
2. Aussen
3. Cancon
4. Support Rgr
5. Dahcon
6. Force Reserve
7. Britcon

The winning Swedish team is seen at one of the stations.

Sgt Tenska Karlsson, Sgt Lars Eriksson, 2nd Lt Weine Alénius and Sgt Bert Karlsson.
FAREWELL TO THE SIOUX

During the next two months the Sioux helicopters will be phased out. The Force Army Air Corps Flight has been equipped with Sioux helicopters since it was formed in 1968, and even before that 21 Flight AAC were equipped with both Sioux helicopters and Auster light aircraft.

In the four years the Force has existed these helicopters have flown over 25000 hours in the Service of Peace, which at an approximate 80 nautical miles per hour is the equivalent of our Sioux flying round the world 70 times.

SIOUXOPERLAVES

SIOUXPERSONIC

SNACKERS YARD

OPERATIONS

RESUPPLY BY WHIRLWIND CONTINUES

The new helicopters will be replaced by the Alouette III (picture above). The new helicopters will arrive at the Sioux/Accota Base during the next two or three weeks, and then the task of training the pilots to fly them will begin. The Alouette is a bigger and faster helicopter than the Sioux, it can carry four people internally, and can carry small external loads.

THE NEW HELICOPTER

HELP FOR THE POSTMAN


In the pre-Christmas period the post office in the Austrian Contingent is very busy. Herr Markelli, a reserve officer in the Recce Platoon, is a postman in civilian life and so has his hands full helping to get the mail away to the lucky recipients.

AUSCON WISHES ALL CONTINGENTS A HAPPY CHRISTMAS

GREEK LESSONS FOR NEWCOMERS

Sinnvoll Freizeitgestaltung ist ein großes Anliegen von AUSCON. Ein Griechenkurs, den Völle-Beaßhul und der den Jungen Soldaten die Grundkenntnisse der Sprache vermitteln soll, hat großen Anstieg festgehalten.

SCHIETING COMPETITION
SILVER JUBILEE MEDALS

A medal parade was held at Wolseley Barracks Nicosia on 4 December to present twenty-three of the 38 Silver Jubilee Medals awarded to members of the Second Battalion of The Royal Canadian Regiment.


The members of Platoon 2 RCR who received this decoration in QFS Ceylon are: WO Clements WA, WO Coxon WE, Sgt Benjamin WK, Sgt Bulyea F, Sgt Duff IW, Sgt Hill FJ, Sgt Ruer ERG, Sgt West RL, MCpl Berrett JL, MCpl Cavenagh DV, MCpl Doyle RF, MCpl Gualandi JD, MCpl McConnell DJ, and MCpl Sayer LG.

WO Marcipont WV is presented with the Silver Jubilee Medal by LCol J.R. Macpherson.

WO Lemoine DG is presented with the Silver Jubilee Medal by Commander Sector 4.

PATROL COMPETITION

The Danish team setting out on the night march.

The six-month Force Military Patrol Competition took place in the Salt Lake area at Lamlasa two weeks ago. The concept of the competition was worked out by the Austrian Contingent before the redeployment moved it to Sector Six, and as both the Austrian and the Swedish Contingents organised an extremely exciting and testing event. The competition was designed to test all the military skills, endurance, fitness, map-reading, first-aid, observation, and grenade throwing.

It was extremely well organised. The Austrian team led up to the last event, when they were beaten into second place by the Swedish team in all seven teams, each of four competitors took part in the competition, which began with a night march.

At the end of the competition, the Force Commander presented the prizes to the winning Swedish Team.

Results:

1. Sweden
2. Austria
3. Canada
4. Support Regiment
5. Denmark
6. Force Reserve
7. 1 Kings

The Force Commander, General Queisser pictured presenting the prizes to the winning Swedish Team.

Going Down.
The upgrading of the Military facilities and equipment continue, and will undoubtedly save petrol. Speedy soldiers in Larnaca District beware!

Every year at this time Provost Marshals (or for the purists Provost Marshal) sit down and compose lengthy exhortations to their public on the need to temper their Christmas spirit with moderation in the consumption of those other jolly spirits which flow with such abandon during the festive season. Such messages, while sincere in their intent, quite often lose their impact because Provost Marshals (or Provost Marshal) who as we all know, are second only to Saint Nick in their desire to spread good will, frequently ignore their own advice and in the knowledge that a duty MP is always available to drive them safely home.

This year for a change I have been asked to say a few words on behalf of a close friend who shares my concern for our mutual wellbeing over the demands of a heavy social season — my stomach. For those who have not met him, “Ole Rumbles” as he is affectionately known to his friends is a hard-working, forward looking, well rounded personality who takes everything as it comes and has survived prolonged attacks by all manner of international cuisine including the devastating assault of those culinary shock troops the Brussels Sprouts. Even such a well seasoned campaigner now views the arrival of another Christmas and the New Year with something approaching panic. Neither of us is getting any younger. Is it to be the same again? The floods of schnapps and Brandy Sours; the great lumps of turkey thundering down upon the peanuts and puddings and pies and the poor unfortunate fish hard aground on savoy crackes; and more schnapps and beer and Irish Cream and... ugh!

Even supposing the Provost Marshal is fortunate enough to survive the traffic, or his own speed traps, on the cold eye of the fiend of FOXTROT, shall his December mornings be spent with poor “Ole Rumbles” enveloped in something resembling a ton of cold while fat wrapped around a racing conscience? Only YOU can help by keeping an eye on your Provost Marshal over the season and encouraging him to moderate his feasting. To see him clearly of course you will have to moderate your own drinking and consequently enjoy the benefits of safer driving and — A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

TRAFFIC STATISTICS

|                      | 2 weeks ending 24 Dec. | 16
|----------------------|------------------------|---
| Previous year        |                        | 12
| Total for this year  |                        | 224
| Same time last year  |                        | 245

**Last year Lesson for the month WHY DIE IN PERFECT HEALTH**

HAVE A SAFE CHRISTMAS

DON'T

DRINK AND DRIVE

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